

New Claims 18 – 22 Are Fully Supported by the Specification and Patentable Over the Cited References

New claims 18 – 22 are fully supported by the specification and the figures, in particular FIG. 1. The invention of claim 18 describes an iron golf club head having a cavity portion, a face portion, and a sole portion. The sole portion includes a groove oriented parallel to the face portion that extends along the sole portion within a cavity portion. Additionally, the head contains a projected wall portion that extends upwardly from the sole portion and has length along an axis extending from the heel of the golf club to the toe of the golf club, which is less than the length of the cavity portion along the same axis. Also, the ball-hitting portion of the clubface is greater than the thickness of the top edge side portion of the clubface located between the ball hitting portion and the top edge portion of the iron head. Additionally, the ball-hitting portion is as least as thick as the sole side portion of the clubface, which is located between the ball hitting portion and the sole and that extends along said groove.

Japanese Patent No. JP 10024130 describes a golf club head that has a ball hitting portion that has a thickness that is greater than the thickness of the toe side of a face portion. However, JP 100241390 does not describe, teach, or suggest a projected wall portion offset from the face portion and extending upward from a sole portion and has a length along a first axis extending from the heel portion to the toe portion of the golf club that is less than the cavity portion along the same axis.

U.S. Patent No. 5,807,191 to Nakahara (hereinafter “*Nakahara*”) describes cavity-back golf club that contains a blade portion that extends from a top portion of the face portion toward the backside of the club in an obliquely upward direction. The golf club head also contains a projecting weight portion that is integrated with the back end of the sole portion in such a manner as to project in an upward direction. The cavity in the backside is defined by the face portion, the blade portion, the sole portion, and the projecting portion. The blade portion, which has a predetermined length and the projecting portion, which has a predetermined height, are respectively formed integrally with the top portion of the face portion of the club head body and the back side end of the sole portion as weights which respectively *continuously* extend from the top portion and back-side end. *Nakahara* however, describe, teach, or suggest a projected wall portion offset from the face portion and extending upward from a sole portion and has a length

along a first axis extending from the heel portion to the toe portion of the golf club that is less than the cavity portion along the same axis.

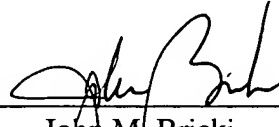
U.S. Patent No. 4,915,386 to Antonious (hereinafter "*Antonious*") describes a cavity-backed golf club iron head that contains a raised concentrated mass, which may be in the shape of a cylinder, semi-hemisphere, oval, or other raised shape located within the cavity and extending outwardly from the center of percussion of the club head. *Antonious* however, does not describe a groove within in the cavity and extending along the face portion of the golf club iron head. Nor does *Antonious* describe teach or suggest a projected wall portion offset from the face portion and extending upward from a sole portion and has a length along a first axis extending from the heel portion to the toe portion of the golf club that is less than the cavity portion along the same axis.

Because none of the references describe, teach, or suggest cavity back golf club head iron head that has a projected wall portion offset from the face portion, wherein the length of the projected wall portion along an axis extending from the heel of the golf club to the toe of the golf club is less than the cavity portion along the same axis, claims 18 - 23 are patentable over the cited references and are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please contact John Briski at 404.885.3141.

Respectfully submitted,

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